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CONFIRMATION NO.

DANIEL E. JOHNSON IBM CORPORATION, ALMADEN RESEARCH CENTER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW DEPT. C4TA/J2B 650 HARRY ROAD SAN JOSE CA 95120-6099

Date Mailed: December 2, 2004

Decision Granting Petition under 37 CFR 1.138(c) The declaration of express abandonment is recognized

This is in response to the petition under 37 CFR 1.138(c), for express abandonment to avoid publication of the above-identified application.

The petition is granted.

The express abandonment is recognized and the application has been withdrawn from publication.

A notice of abandonment is attached/will be mailed in due course.

Telephone inquiries should be directed to the Office of Patent Publication, the Pre-Grant Publication Division, at 703-605-4283.

Pre-Grant Publication Division Office of Patent Publication